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August 10, 2004
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Anthony P. Curtis, Ph.D. Reg. No.46,193

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

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Technology Center 2600

Our File No. 9281-4138

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ooshima et al.

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Serial No. 09/885,871

)

Examiner: Julie A. Watko

Filing Date: June 20, 2001

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Group Art Unit: 2652

For: "Spin-Valve Type Thin Film Magnetic
Element"

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FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references B1 – B4 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of these references and the Japanese Office Action citing them are enclosed herewith.

The filing of this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally

determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of this First Supplemental IDS being filed after the mailing date of the final office action. In compliance with 37 CFR 1.97(d), Applicants hereby state that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Applicants submit that a fee as set forth under 1.17(p) is due, and a corresponding check of \$180.00 is enclosed. Should any other fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony P. Curtis, Ph. D.
Registration No. 46,193
Attorney for Applicants

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<p style="text-align: center;">LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</p> <p>(use several sheets if necessary)</p>	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	09/885,871	9281-4138
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT June 20, 2001 2652
APPLICANTS: Masahiro Ooshima et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	B1	JP 10 - 112562	04/28/1998	Japan		X	
	B2	JP 11 - 266044	09/28/1999	Japan		X	
	B3	JP 2000-040211	02/08/2000	Japan		X	
	B4	J87455 B1	05/12/2004	Japan		X	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609;
Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next
communication to applicant.